

Remarks

Oath/Declaration

A copy of a newly executed Declaration, which includes the application number and filing date, has been submitted with this Amendment.

Drawing Objection

As suggested by the Examiner, Applicant has revised drawing FIG. 2 by hatching base 14 using the drawing symbol for rubber, as set forth in the MPEP § 608.02, to indicate that the base 14 may be formed of a compliant rubber pad, as specified in claim 2 and in the Detailed Description of the Invention in paragraph 19. A hand crank mechanism has been added to drawing FIG. 3, as specified in claim 4 and in the Detailed Description of the Invention in paragraph 22, and is indicated as reference number 25. Applicant submits that no new matter has been entered.

Specification Objection

The specification is objected to because the trademark GORE-TEX™ and Velcro™, appearing in the application in paragraphs [0024] and [0027], respectively, should be accompanied by the generic terminology. The above amendment to the specification makes the Examiner's suggested correction by providing general terminology to accompany the capitalized trademark name. In addition, Applicant has corrected the spelling of GORE-TEX™.

Paragraph [0022] has been amended to include the reference number 25 for the hand cranking mechanism and to remove the phrase "(not shown)".

Claim Rejections

Claims 1-13 are rejected under 35 USC § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the

subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. Specifically, the Examiner asserts that there is insufficient antecedent basis for the limitation of "the equipment" in claims 1, 2, 7 and 13. Applicant has amended claims 1, 2, and 13 to provide sufficient antecedent basis for "the equipment". Applicant has canceled claim 7.

Applicant has also amended claim 1 to add the claim 7 limitations. Since claims 7-13 have been deemed allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejections under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, Applicant submits that claim 1 is in condition for allowance. Claims 2-6 and 8-13, depend from independent claim 1 and include all the limitations thereof. Therefore, Applicant believes pending claims 2-6 and 8-13 are also in condition for allowance, and such action is earnestly solicited. If any further issues remain, the Examiner is cordially invited to contact the undersigned so that such matters can be promptly resolved.

Respectfully submitted,

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